

Gown Museum Getting A Facelift



NEW LOOK is provided Gown Museum in Center by workmen busy painting front and side. (Derr photo)

Painters' ladders were jutting up the front and side of the Gown Museum on Elm Street last week. Courtesy of contributions given to the Cohasset Historical Society, the cleanup of the museum's exterior was possible.

Larry Fone, owner of Cook-works, has been sponsoring the drive for contributions to the project. Fone said that the painting job will probably total several hundred dollars, and that contributions from merchants and individuals have only yielded \$130 thus far.

Fone has considered erecting a fund raising thermometer sign to inspire gifts, and intends to ask Selectmen for help from the Tree and Park Department to plant new shrubbery around the edifice. Fone also expects that volunteers will finish painting the remaining side and back.

"It's an old historical building in the center of town," Fone said "It was blighted, it needed sprucing up." Fone has long been an advocate of beautifying Cohasset; his shop

sports two planters out front, a decorative effort he wishes more merchants and the town would adopt.

The exterior of the Gown Museum will be renewed for the time being, but another

concern of the Historical Society, Fone said, is preservation of the artifacts contained within. "The interior needs humidity control among other things," he noted. "It should be treated as a real museum."

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Commentary—Sewer System Review

By Gilbert Tower

Cohasset is confronted with the problem of disposing of its wastewater. We have a public water supply system which delivers clean water to points all over the town. A wastewater disposal system would

be opposite to the supply system.

It may be said that in most towns wastewater from bathrooms, together with rainfall, soaks into the ground and is no problem. In Cohasset, however, the ground is not absorbent in some areas. The soil has somewhat the character of clay. Groundwater is encountered a few feet below the surface and below that there is much ledge. The result is that wastewater in septic tanks and cesspools does not percolate. Conditions vary from house to house. Some homeowners report that they have no trouble with their septic tanks and cesspools. Others say that they require pumping out several times a year. If not pumped out the wastewater would overflow to neighbors yards and cause pollution. There are several districts which now cause serious trouble.

One is the Veteran's development on the east side of Rte. 3A. That area is drained by a little brook called Peppermint Brook which flows into Lilly Pond and contaminates the town's water supply. The condition is not alarming be-

cause Lilly Pond water is frequently tested and treated with chlorine.

But the Veteran's district definitely needs a sewer pipe. When the town subdivided the land area to provide house lots for veterans it was not realized that the soil would not percolate. So, permits were issued and houses were built before it was realized that there would be a problem.

Lincoln Hillside is another area where septic tanks and cesspools overflow. If the house lots were 40,000 sq. ft. or more in area it might be possible to enlarge the leaching areas to eventually dispose of the effluent from the septic tanks. When house lots are small nothing can be done. The difficulty is in proportion to the number of people who flush the water closet.

Many Cohasset houses on the rocky shore of the ocean and Little Harbor and the Gulf now discharge their septic tank effluent or wastewater into the ocean. A determination will be made to see whether that practice is permissible or whether those houses will have to connect

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